



**Australian  
Bureau of  
Statistics**

# **1998**

## **WESTERN AUSTRALIA AT A GLANCE**

Capital city: Perth, founded 12 August 1829

Time: Western Standard Time, eight hours ahead of Greenwich Mean Time

Approximate distances by air from Perth to other capital cities in Australia (kilometres)

Canberra	3 300	Brisbane	4 100	Hobart	3 400
Sydney	3 400	Adelaide	2 200	Darwin	2 900
Melbourne	2 800				

## Population

### Estimated resident population (ERP) at 30 June —

Western Australia —				
Males	'000	869.5	887.9	904.4
Females	"	861.6	877.9	893.7
Persons	"	1 731.2	1 765.7	1 798.1
Perth Statistical Division	"	1 262.2	1 295.1	1 319.0
Rest of State	"	469.0	470.6	479.2

## Census Population

### Age groups (proportion of population) —

Under 15 years	%	24.2	23.6	22.4
15–19 years	"	8.6	7.8	7.4
20–59 years	"	54.0	54.9	56.2
60–64 years	"	3.9	3.9	3.6
65 years and over	"	9.3	9.9	10.4

### Birthplace (proportion of population) —

Australia	%	70.9	69.2	68.3
Europe —				
UK and Ireland	"	13.8	13.6	12.4
Italy	"	2.0	1.7	1.5
Other	"	4.3	4.2	2.4
Asia	"	3.6	4.7	4.1
New Zealand	"	1.8	2.2	2.3
Other	"	3.7	4.4	9.0

### Major urban centres —

Albany	No.	16 316	18 826	20 493
Bunbury	"	23 031	24 003	24 945
Geraldton	"	21 726	24 361	25 243
Kalgoorlie-Boulder	"	22 232	25 016	28 087
Mandurah	"	14 699	23 343	35 945
Perth	"	883 716	1 018 702	1 096 829
Port Hedland	"	13 069	11 344	12 846

## Vital statistics

Live Births registered	No.	25 138	25 139	24 793
Deaths registered	"	10 295	10 361	11 027
Marriages registered	"	10 366	10 404	10 294
Divorces granted	"	5 024	5 040	4 959

### Crude rate (per 1 000 mean ERP) —

Births	14.8	14.4	14.1
Deaths	6.1	6.0	6.3
Marriages	6.1	6.0	5.8
Divorces	3.0	2.9	2.8

**Government —**

Schools	No.	768	764	767
Students, full-time	"	223 091	224 714	226 075

**Non-government —**

Schools	"	250	255	264
Students, full-time	"	78 590	82,092	85,002

(a) as at 31 July

Males	\$	686.30	690.00	719.70
Females	"	407.70	415.00	418.40
<b>Persons</b>	"	<b>550.30</b>	<b>554.30</b>	<b>562.60</b>

(a) Total earnings, Trend

**Labour force — 1997**

<b>Total labour force —</b>	'000	897.1	918.5	933.1
Employed persons	"	829.0	848.4	868.2
Unemployed persons	"	68.1	70.1	64.9

Unemployment rate	%	7.6	7.6	7.0
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(a) Trend

**Labour force by economic sector — 1997**

Agriculture, forestry, etc	'000	51.1	46.0	46.4
Mining	"	26.7	33.5	28.6
Manufacturing	"	84.7	90.7	85.2
Electricity, gas & water	"	8.6	7.6	6.4
Construction	"	73.5	71.5	73.9
Wholesale and retail trade	"	170.9	171.6	178.8
Accommodation, cafe & restaurant	"	36.0	37.2	39.8
Transport and storage	"	35.3	37.9	37.6
Communication	"	13.4	16.3	14.4
Finance, insur, property & business	"	106.2	115.9	116.1
Government admin & defence	"	34.1	27.5	33.8
Education	"	63.6	60.2	65.1
Health & community services	"	71.4	74.1	80.7
Culture, recreation & personal	"	55.0	51.7	60.1

**State Government Budget — 1997**

<b>Current outlays —</b>	\$m	<b>6 359</b>	<b>6 862</b>	<b>6 947</b>
Final consumption expenditure	"	4 189	4 584	4 388
Interest payments	"	1 042	1 063	983
Other current outlays	"	1 128	1 216	1 576

<b>Capital outlays —</b>	"	<b>1 138</b>	<b>587</b>	<b>1 698</b>
Gross fixed capital expenditure	"	1 087	1 410	1 572
Other capital outlays	"	50	-824	126

<b>Total Revenue —</b>	"	<b>7 571</b>	<b>8 107</b>	<b>7 953</b>
Taxes, fees and fines	"	2 549	2 679	2 751
Net operating surpluses of public trading enterprises	"	735	693	1 092
Interest received	"	204	321	381
Grants received	"	3 368	3 737	3 173
Other revenue	"	714	678	556

<b>Financing transactions —</b>	"	<b>-74</b>	<b>-658</b>	<b>692</b>
Borrowing (net)	"	-36	167	142
Other financing transactions	"	-38	-824	550

secured finance commitments to individuals for —

Construction of dwellings	\$m	1 206.2	1 015.1	979.1
Purchase of —				
Newly erected dwellings	"	120.6	157.3	199.3
Established dwellings (a)	"	4 072.1	4 363.9	4 870.2
Alterations and additions	"	284.7	349.5	268.4

includes refinancing.

rth, December quarter —		(cents)	(cents)	(cents)
Milk carton, supermarket sales	1 litre	116	125	135
Cheese, processed, sliced wrapped	500 g	344	336	337
Butter	"	193	199	191
Bread, white loaf, sliced	680 g	166	174	187
Rump steak	1 kg	1 101	1 051	1 052
Silverside, corned	"	678	646	636
Lamb, leg	"	554	614	579
Chicken, frozen	"	329	338	368
Bacon, middle rashers	250 g pkt	318	336	351
Sausages	1 kg	441	398	428
Potatoes	1 kg	120	124	120
Tomatoes	"	282	349	311
Eggs	55 g 1 doz	217	257	263
Sugar, white	2 kg	220	216	233
Tea	250 g	186	198	231
Coffee, instant	150 g jar	577	559	656
Margarine, poly-unsaturated	500 g	172	159	149

Consumer Price Index 98

rth  
Base: 1989-90 = 100.0

Food	113.4	116.8	121.0
Clothing	107.4	107.0	106.2
Housing	94.0	100.9	96.4
Household equipment and operation	109.0	111.2	113.1
Transportation	118.9	123.4	122.4
Tobacco and alcohol	131.8	145.9	152.2
Health and personal care	130.4	138.6	146.8
Recreation and education	109.6	114.1	116.0
<b>All groups</b>	<b>112.3</b>	<b>116.7</b>	<b>118.3</b>

Building 97

new residential buildings —

Approved	No.	22 312	15 738	15 646
Completed	"	24 132	17 447	14 342

value of new residential buildings —

Approved	\$m	1 775	1 421	1 525
Completed	"	1 976	1 642	1 430

total value of buildings —

Approved	"	2 659	2 387	2 902
Completed	"	3 103	2 618	2 496

Production —

Iron ore	'000t	135 966	133 651
Crude oil	megalitres	12 512	16 225
Gold	kilograms	189 353	221 033
Natural gas	gigalitres	5 827	6 623
Diamonds	'000ct	23 452	47 426

Persons employed as at 30 June  
Turnover

'000	65.4	70.9	68.8
\$m	13 778	14 472	15 069

Imports  
Exports

\$m	5 799	6 290	6 753
"	16 394	18 914	19 326

Exports to —

Japan	\$m	4 421	4 814	4 838
U.K.	"	568	954	435
Singapore	"	1 134	1 076	1 177

Imports from —

Japan	\$m	1 196	859	882
U.S.A.	"	1 020	1 259	1 178
United Kingdom	"	332	375	390

Major commodities exported —

Iron ore	\$m	2 759	2 846	3 149
Wool	"	733	691	644
Wheat	"	1 121	1 826	1 616
Gold bullion	"	2 931	3 342	2 936
Petroleum & petroleum products	"	1 544	1 586	2 594

1993-94 1994-95 1995-96

Gross value of production —

Wheat for grain	\$m	1 156.9	1 307.4	1 975.4
Livestock slaughtering and other disposals		545.7	624.2	684.1
Total agriculture	"	3 365.1	3 861.4	4 489.2

Livestock at 31 March —

Cattle for —				
Milk	'000	123.0	126.0	121.0
Meat	"	1 682.5	1 773.1	1 803.0
Sheep and lambs	"	31 951.5	30 217.9	29 834.0
Pigs	"	311.6	316.4	314.0

Production —

Wheat for grain	'000	6 689	5 438	6 827
Wool	"	213	173	166
Beef and veal	"	101	97	97
Mutton and lamb	"	93	72	63
Pigmeat	"	32	35	37

<b>Total Overseas Arrivals</b>	<b>No.</b>	<b>656 850</b>	<b>699 380</b>	<b>763 410</b>
<b>Total Overseas Departures</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>651 730</b>	<b>689 300</b>	<b>747 390</b>
<b>Short term visitor arrivals by air —</b>				
Indonesia	"	28 980	30 120	51 600
Japan	"	44 240	49 260	33 880
New Zealand	"	24 330	24 200	26 420
Singapore	"	59 600	64 690	63 950
United Kingdom & Ireland	"	61 070	59 220	69 460
<b>All countries</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>339 690</b>	<b>361 180</b>	<b>397 290</b>

<b>New motor vehicles registrations —</b>				
Motor cars and station wagons	<b>No.</b>	<b>52 094</b>	<b>51 139</b>	<b>56 984</b>
Motor cycles	"	2 355	2 441	2 692
Other	"	12 861	13 162	13 035
<b>Total</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>67 310</b>	<b>66 922</b>	<b>72 711</b>

<b>Vehicles on register —</b>				
Motor cars and station wagons	<b>No.</b>	<b>855 129</b>	<b>880 856</b>	<b>911 887</b>
Motor cycles	"	37 440	37 590	39 181
Other	"	286 243	293 340	302 658
<b>Total</b>	<b>"</b>	<b>1 178 812</b>	<b>1 211 786</b>	<b>1 253 726</b>

(a) For 1995, Vehicles on Register is at 31 May.  
For 1996 and 1997, Vehicles on Register is at 2 November.

			Date or period	Western Australia	Per cent of Australian total
Area	'000 sq km	..	..	2 526	32.9
Coastline	km	..	..	12 500	34.0
<b>Demography —</b>					
Estimated resident population	'000	30 Jun 1997	..	1 798.1	9.7
Births registered	No.	"	"	24 840	9.8
Deaths registered	"	"	"	10 691	8.2
(including infant deaths)	"	"	"	10 372	9.6
Marriages registered	"	"	"	4 931	9.3
Divorces granted	"	"	"	..	..
<b>Labour force —</b>					
Employed persons	'000	Mar 1998	..	871.1	10.2
Unemployed persons	"	"	"	66.4	8.8
<b>Agriculture —</b>					
Gross value of production	\$m	1995-96	..	4 489	16.4
Area of establishments	'000 ha	"	"	114 520	24.3
Wheat for grain —					
Area	'000 ha	"	"	3 892	42.2
Production	'000 tonnes	"	"	6 827	41.1
Wool	"	"	"	166	25.1
<b>Manufacturing —</b>					
Persons employed	'000	1995-96	..	68.8	7.6
Turnover	\$m	"	"	15 069.1	7.6
<b>Foreign Trade —</b>					
Imports	\$m	1996-97	..	6 753	8.5
Exports	"	"	"	19 326	24.5

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